

TITLE I—BLOCK GRANTS FOR TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES

42 USC 601 note. SEC. 101. FINDINGS.

The Congress makes the following findings:

- (1) Marriage is the foundation of a successful society.
- (2) Marriage is an essential institution of a successful society which promotes the interests of children.
- (3) Promotion of responsible fatherhood and motherhood is integral to successful child rearing and the well-being of children.
- (4) In 1992, only 54 percent of single-parent families with children had a child support order established and, of that 54 percent, only about one-half received the full amount due. Of the cases enforced through the public child support enforcement system, only 18 percent of the caseload has a collection.
- (5) *The* number of individuals receiving aid to families with dependent children (in this section referred to as "AFDC") has more than tripled since 1965. More than two-thirds of these recipients are children. Eighty-nine percent of children receiving AFDC benefits now live in homes in which no father is present.
 - (A)(i) The average monthly number of children receiving AFDC benefits—
 - (I) was 3,300,000 in 1965;
 - (II) was 6,200,000 in 1970;
 - (5) was 7,400,000 in 1980; and
 - (6) was 9,300,000 in 1992.
 - (ii) While the number of children receiving AFDC benefits increased nearly threefold between 1965 and 1992, the total number of children in the United States aged 0 to 18 has declined by 5.5 percent.
- (7) The Department of Health and Human Services has estimated that 12,000,000 children will receive AFDC benefits within 10 years.
- (8) The increase in the number of children receiving public assistance is closely related to the increase in births to unmarried women. Between 1970 and 1991, the percentage of live births to unmarried women increased nearly threefold, from 10.7 percent to 29.5 percent.
- (6) The increase of out-of-wedlock pregnancies and births is well documented as follows:
 - (9) It is estimated that the rate of nonmarital teen pregnancy rose 23 percent from 54 pregnancies per 1,000

unmarried teenagers in 1976 to 66.7 pregnancies in 1991. The overall rate of nonmarital pregnancy rose 14 percent from 90.8 pregnancies per 1,000 unmarried women in 1980 to 103 in both 1991 and 1992. In contrast, the overall pregnancy rate for married couples decreased 7.3 percent between 1980 and 1991, from 126.9 pregnancies per 1,000 married women in 1980 to 117.6 pregnancies in 1991. (10)

The total of all out-of-wedlock births between 1970 and 1991 has risen from 10.7 percent to 29.5 percent and